

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MEXICO 03619 030214Z

70

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 EUR-25 ISO-00 COME-00 L-03 LOC-01 CU-04

TRSE-00 TAR-02 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DRC-01

/075 W

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R 022002Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1446

INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

UNCLAS MEXICO 3619

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EIND, MX

SUBJECT: IMPORTATION OF BOOKS

REF: MEXICO 3325 AND PREVIOUS

1. MEXICAN PRESS REPORTS THAT GOVERNMENT OF SPAIN IS PLANNING TO EASE ITS OWN RESTRICTIONS ON SPANISH LANGUAGE BOOK IMPORTS IN ORDER TO AVERT EXPECTED IMPOSITION OF QUOTAS ON THE IMPORTATION OF BOOKS INTO MEXICO. SPAIN IS REPORTEDLY PREPARED TO LIFT ALL RESTRICTIONS ON THE SALE OF BOOKS PUBLISHED IN MEXICO AND TO GIVE "LEGAL RECOGNITION" TO MEXICO'S FONDO DE CULTURAL ECONOMICA PUBLISHING FIRM. SPANISH CENSORSHIP, WHICH IN THE PAST HAD BARRED THE WORKS OF SOME MEXICAN AUTHORS, WOULD ALSO BE RELAXED. IT WAS ANNOUNCED THAT SPANISH-MEXICAN BILATERAL PUBLISHING RELATIONS IN THE FUTURE WOULD BE CHARACTERIZED BY RECIPROCITY.

2. COMMENT: WHETHER GOS APPROACH AND TALK OF RECIPROCITY THIS LATE IN THE GAME AND BY ITSELF WILL HAVE A MODIFYING EFFECT ON ANTICIPATED GOM ACTION TO RESTRICT BOOK IMPORTS IS DOUBTFUL. PERHAPS IF OTHER COUNTRIES WHICH FLOOD THE MEXICAN BOOK MARKET, I.E. ARGENTINA, CHILE, WERE ALSO TO
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REMOVE THEIR OWN BARRIERS AGAINST BOOK IMPORTS, GOM MIGHT

EVEN GO SO FAR AS TO DROP ITS QUOTA SCHEME ENTIRELY.
US PUBLISHERS WOULD PROFIT FROM SUCH A LIBERALIZATION OF
WORLD TRADE IN SPANISH LANGUAGE BOOKS, BUT SUBSTANTIALY
LESS SO THAN SPAIN, ARGENTINA, OR CHILE. JOVA

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRADE LAW, PRESS COMMENTS, PUBLICATIONS, IMPORT CONTROLS, BOOKS, BUSINESS FIRMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 MAY 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974MEXICO03619
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740106-0219
From: MEXICO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740580/aaaactqz.tel
Line Count: 65
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: MEXICO 3325 AND PREVIOUS
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kellerpr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 OCT 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 OCT 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <02 JAN 2003 by kellerpr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: IMPORTATION OF BOOKS
TAGS: ETRD, EIND, MX
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005